

Remarks

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application respectfully are requested.

Claims 7-25 are being considered. Claims 1-6 and 26-103 remain in this application and are withdrawn.

Regarding the objection to the specification, the specification has been amended at page 51, as was suggested by the Examiner. The reference number 584 in the paragraph beginning at line 18 of specification page 51 now is shown as being corrected to read 854 at three places. For the convenience of the USPTO, the correction at line 18 (the first line of the subject paragraph) had been made in the Amendment that was filed on August 8, 2005; the undersigned does not know whether the correction made in that August 8th Amendment was entered. It is hoped that the change to such paragraph at three places does not cause confusion.

If there are any other objections to the specification or drawings, Examiner Mayekar is invited to telephone applicant's undersigned attorney to discuss them so that appropriate corrections can be made efficiently. It is believed that the objection to the specification now should be withdrawn.

Claims 7 and 9 have been amended.

Regarding the objection to claim 9, such claim has been amended to delete the typographical mistake of including the word "(original)" from the last line of claim 9. It is believed that the objection to claim 9 now should be withdrawn.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 7-12, 21, 22, 24 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Creighton (5,766,447) respectfully is requested at least for the following reasons. Creighton describes that he does not want to create electric arcs; he wants streamers, and he does this by using relatively sharp electrodes and very short duration electrical pulses, e.g., a pulse duration of less than 10 microseconds. Also, see Creighton, column 2, lines 59-64 concerning precluding the formation of arc discharges. In contrast to the Creighton disclosure, the claimed subject matter of the rejected claims provides for accumulation of electrons to discharge electrically as electric arcs into a fluid. Also, Creighton does not disclose the claimed subject matter, "wherein said first electrode is adapted to provide a current

limiting effect during such discharge;" there is no current limiting effect disclosed or suggested in Creighton. Still further Creighton does not disclose discharge sites and charging paths related for charging the discharges in electrical series and discharging the discharge sites in electrical parallel.

Creighton is directed to a device that functions in an aqueous medium. That medium may have some air bubbles in it, but clearly it primarily is aqueous. Being operative for an aqueous medium, Creighton does not have to be concerned with heat dissipation, whereas a device that operates to ionize a gaseous fluid medium would have concern for heat issues. Although the claims are not restricted to a gaseous medium, the structure set forth in respective claims, e.g., claim 7, is adapted toward use with a gaseous medium because the claimed invention provides for charging in series and discharging in parallel; and this helps to avoid the occurrence, accumulation and/or buildup of damaging heat. Such discharging in parallel allows for the possibility of unstable arcs to occur in the area of a given discharge site without significantly affecting another discharge site; and this characteristic, too, helps to distribute the arc over a relatively large part of the gaseous medium while minimizing heating; Creighton does not do this nor is Creighton concerned with heat, so there is no reason that Creighton would do this.

Regarding claims 8-12, Creighton does not disclose a pair of counter electrodes.

Regarding claim 9, Creighton does not disclose a plurality of input electrodes that is a metal wire.

Regarding claims 21, 22, and 25, Creighton does not disclose a first electrode located in a tube off center from the tube axis.

Regarding claim 24, Creighton does not disclose a further electrode with discontinuities to cause discontinuity in electric field.

Accordingly, for at least the above reasons claims 7-12, 21, 22, 24 and 25 are not anticipated by Creighton, and such claims should be allowed.

Withdrawal of the rejection of 13-20 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Creighton '477 [sic, '447] respectfully is requested for at least the above reasons, as all of these claims depend directly or indirectly from claim 7, and the following reasons.

The following claimed elements are not disclosed or suggested in Creighton, and, therefore, these elements are not *prima facie* obvious in view of Creighton:

Claims 14 and 15, the electrode of Creighton adjoins a wall of the inner wall 1; but that electrode is not "wrapped around the holder," as is set forth in claim 14;

Claim 16, Creighton does not disclose a holder "comprised of a plurality of protrusions and a plurality of recesses.

Claim 17, Creighton does not disclose a wire wound around such holder that is comprised of a plurality of protrusions and a plurality of recesses.

Claim 18, Creighton does not disclose the claimed spacer disk and its relation to the other claimed elements.

Claim 19, Creighton does not disclose an electrode that is woven into an electrically non-conductive fabric., as although the electrode a

Accordingly, for at least the above reasons the subject matter of claims 13-20 and 23 would not be obvious to a person who has ordinary skill in the art in view of Creighton, and such claims should be allowed.

In view of the above, it is believed that all outstanding issues have been addressed, that all claims are allowable, and, accordingly, this application is in condition for allowance. Prompt allowance of this application earnestly is solicited.

The applicant and his attorney would appreciate an opportunity to have a personal interview with Examiner Mayekar, as the undersigned mentioned to Examiner Mayekar in a telephone conference recently, if the application is not deemed allowable at the present time, and in any event prior to the issuing of a final rejection. If Examiner Mayekar feels that a telephone interview may lead to expedited allowance of this application without the need for a personal interview, then he is encouraged to telephone applicant's undersigned attorney.

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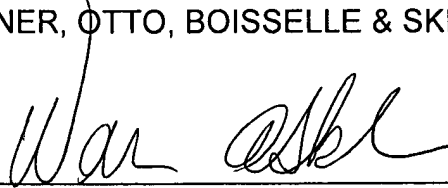
A three month extension and the extension fee are filed with this paper. If any additional fee is required, please charge the additional fee to applicant's attorneys' deposit account No. 18-0988, Order No. GUDYP102USD.

Respectfully submitted,

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